

Docket No. 740819-715
Application No. 10/018,369
Page 4

REMARKS

By way of the present response, claim 8 is amended to recite that each of the glass pipe and the glass rod has a constant linear feed rate, and the linear feed rate of the glass pipe is set faster than that of the glass rod. Support for the amended subject matter is found, for example, at least in Applicants' Figures 4 and 5. During a telephonic conference on about May 11, 2006, the Examiner and the undersigned discussed an proposed amendment that adds "linear" to the recitation "feed rate" and agreed that the subject matter set forth in the presently amended claims is neither described nor rendered obvious over the applied Berkey and Baumgart patents. Hence, it is believed that amended claim 8 is allowable. Claim 10 depends from allowable claim 8 and is therefore also believed allowable.

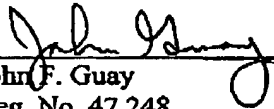
Applicants note that the drawings should be in their originally filed form because the Examiner refused entry of the proposed drawing changes submitted on November 18, 2005, and May 1, 2006. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the drawing objections set forth in the January 30, 2006, Office Action, and the Examiner's concerns regarding the drawings expressed on page 2 of the Advisory Action have been rendered moot.

Finally, on page 2 of the Office Action, and on page 2 of the Advisory Action, the Examiner objected to Applicants' Amendment filed on November 18, 2005, under 35 U.S.C. 132(a). While the Examiner indicates in the Advisory Action that the amendments to page 28 of the specification are appropriate, he continues to assert that the changes made to pages 25-27 of the specification introduce new matter. However, pages 7 to 8 of Applicants' response of November 18, 2005, provided a detailed explanation of the changes to the claims, and explained that the changes to pages 25-27 of the specification were made because the linear feed rate of the glass pipe is substantially *the same* as the linear feed rate of the glass rod in each of Examples 6, 7, 9-11 and 13 of Figures 4 and 5. Accordingly, the amendments to pages 25-27 delete some examples from the description in accordance with limitations in the presently recited claims, which were inherently disclosed in the original application. Applicants respectfully submit those of ordinary skill in the art would have understood from reading the original disclosure that the amended subject matter of claims 25-27 does not constitute new matter because it is inherent to the original disclosure, and thus Applicants were in full possession of the disclosed invention. For at least these reasons, the Examiner is requested to withdraw the outstanding objection to the amendments of pages 25-27.

Docket No. 740819-715
Application No. 10/018,369
Page 5

Based on the forgoing, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition
for allowance. Prompt notification of the same is earnestly sought.

Respectfully submitted,


John F. Guay
Reg. No. 47,248

Nixon Peabody LLP
401 9th Street N.W.
Suite 900
Washington, D. C. 20004
202-585-8298 (direct)